

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on July 30, 2003, and the references cited therewith.

Applicant's Representative, Barbara J. Clark, conducted a Telephonic Interview with the Examiner on September 24, 2003 to discuss the outstanding 35 USC 112 rejection. The Examiner agreed that support for the phrase "wet bleaching process" can be found in the specification and therefore the 35 USC 112 rejection should be withdrawn. The Examiner indicated that the claims appear to be in condition for allowance, although an additional search will be conducted. Ms. Clark thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview.

No claims are amended, canceled or added. As a result claims 21-25, 27, 31-58 and 60-63 remain pending in this application.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 21-25, 27, 31-58 and 60-63 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The Examiner stated that support for the phrase "wet bleaching process" could not be found in the specification at page 16 as indicated by the Applicant in the Amendment and Response mailed on May 12, 2003.

Support for all the pending claims can be found throughout the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that the Amendment and Response mailed on May 12, 2003, stated that support for treating bran in a wet bleaching process could also be found on page 2, line 13, and that support for a bleached bran product having a water absorption value higher than native bran could also be found on page 16, lines 17-27.

As noted in the above remarks, the Examiner now agrees that the phrase "wet bleaching process" is supported by the specification.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/663914

Filing Date: September 18, 2000

Title: BLEACHED BRAN AND BRAN PRODUCTS AND METHODS OF PREPARATION

Page 9

Dkt. 869/027US1

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 21-25, 27, 31-58 and 60-63 are allowable over the prior art.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/663914

Page 10

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (515) 233-3865 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

ADELMO MONSALVE-GONZALEZ ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 By Barbara J. Clark
Barbara J. Clark
Reg. No. 38,107

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 30 day of September, 2003

Connie Davis
Name

Yvonne Johnson
Signature